

What Sets us Apart

Why Would There Be Differences?

Contrary to popular belief, there is not just a single association that oversees all scouts, nor is there one association that oversees all scouts in the UK. You may be surprised to hear that there are at least five associations that practice scouting in the UK.

Some associations developed independently from others, and some are indeed schisms created by a difference of opinion, however, all associations are part of the scout movement and are there to provide activities and develop young people. Scouting began by boys forming themselves into groups (that we now call patrols) and carrying out the activities described in *Scouting for Boys*, adults and the associations came afterwards.

So, What is Different?

The main difference between the BBS and BGS Association and many other scout associations can be summarised as below:

- We wear the traditional scout uniform.
- Our programme is based on *Scouting for Boys* for Scouts, and *The Wolf Cub Handbook* (and thus the *Jungle Book*) for Wolf Cubs. The BBS and BGS association feels that the programme is just as relevant today as it has always been and requires no such change. Baden-Powell was very far ahead of his time and he knew how to capture the imagination of boys and girls
- We have a progressive badge programme for all sections.
- We have no paid staff. Other scout associations have volunteer leaders, but maintain a head office with full time staff. Baden-Powell did not want scouting to be an organisation, but a movement. Therefore all our adults are volunteers. This helps keep the price of subs down and ensures that our association does not get run under the model of a business.



On Camp



Jersey War Tunnels



Teamwork



The British Boy Scouts and British Girl Scouts Association



Beavers 6 to 8



Fun • Games • Friends

The youngest section of the Scout Group. The most important reason for becoming a Beaver is to have fun and make new friends. Beavers meet new people and learn an array of new activities, even joining in the fun with the Wolf Cubs and Scouts!

Scouts 11 to 15



Exploration • Teamwork • Knowledge

Patrols enable Scouts to develop and hone their skills. Cycling, hiking and even camping competitions push Scouts to do their best.

Baden Powell found that boys and girls were reading and carrying out the ideas in his *Aids to Scouting* book and so wrote *Scouting for Boys* which proved extremely popular and started the trend of children making their own patrols and finding adults to help lead them.

What Do Scouts Do?

Scouting is all about fun, challenges, adventure and achievement. We change lives by offering our young members unique experiences, great adventures, progressive training programmes, and by helping others so that we make a positive impact in communities.

Scouting helps children and young adults reach their full potential. It develops skills that including teamwork, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, caring for others, faith development, cultural awareness, and of course commitment. Young people develop to become more useful citizens, gaining greater prospects in achieving their chosen careers, saving lives and even changing the world for better.

We give young people the opportunity to take part in many exciting and memorable varied activities, with interests for all. Activities are as diverse as: camping, wild camping, hiking, kayaking, abseiling, expeditions, climbing, pioneering, photography, arts and crafts. In fact, if you can imagine it, then we probably provide it! You can learn survival skills, first aid and rescue, health and safety, nature and the environment, woodcraft, develop faith or be a part of an expedition to another country. All these interesting skills developed at camps or weekly meetings where a great variety of games and fun activities are carried out.

Each section has its own progressive training scheme that is a set of skills that are learnt and then are tested against. Should all criteria be passed, then a badge is awarded. The training scheme is progressive, because one badge gears the young person towards the next. Therefore, working through the badge system earning one badge after the next.

Wolf Cubs 8 to 11



Community • Duty • Craft

In small groups, or Sixes, Wolf Cubs began to understand much of the world around them, enjoying ventures such as cooking, walking and camping. The programme, although very different to that of the Scouts, starts Wolf Cubs on a trail to learning all the Scouting skills needed for their future life in the Troop.

Senior Scouts 15 to 18



Independence • Leadership • Adventure

Often as Patrol Leaders, Senior Scouts set the example for much of the Group. Taking in new challenges, passing their skills onto others and achieving top awards is the aim of 'The Game'



Please visit our website for more information and about joining

www.BBSandBGS.org.uk